



## Thecla Marie Ritchie

December 11, 1930 - March 2, 2022

Thecla Marie Ritchie, 91 year old resident of Little Falls, MN, passed away Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at the Good Shepherd Community in Sauk Rapids, MN from Covid-19. There will be a Gathering to honor Thecla at Holy Family Church Fellowship Hall in Little Falls, MN on Friday, March 18, 2022 from 11 - 1:30. Come join us for coffee and of course a light lunch and share memories. There will be a private family burial at a later date. Caring for Thecla and her family is the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN.

Thecla was born on December 11, 1930 in Rosemount, MN to the late Joseph T and Anna C. (Yoerg) Cich. She married Dale Ritchie on May 26, 1951 in St. Paul. They lived in St Paul and Willmar until 1964 when they moved to Little Falls to purchase a small neighborhood grocery store which they owned/operated until 1985 when they retired. Thecla loved to bake, go for walks and visit. She loved stopping by the library on her walks and was a member of the VFW Auxiliary.

Thecla is survived by her son, Ralph Ritchie of Little Falls, MN; daughter, Patti (Bruce) Hammerbeck of Little Falls, MN; brother, David Cich, of Minneapolis, MN; grandchildren, Kelly Bonde of Brainerd, MN and Mark (Jessica) of Moorhead, MN; five great-grandchildren, Brigid, Brendan, Tegan Bonde, Quinlee Marie and Parker May Hammerbeck; plus her many 'Adopted' kids!

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dale (2001); brothers, Edward, Leonard and sister, Theresa; her parents, and in-laws, George and Nora Ritchie; sisters-in-law, Lyda (Richard) Verley, Theda (Chet) Keller, Esther (Mel) Phelps, Evelyn (Arthur) Haviland

We would like to thank all of her 'helpers' at Good Shepherd, Memory Lane and St Croix Hospice for all their Loving Care.

# Cemetery Details

## Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery

15550 Highway 115  
Little Falls, MN

# Previous Events

## Gathering

MAR 18. 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Holy Family Catholic Church - Belle Prairie  
18777 Riverwood Drive  
Little Falls, MN

# Tribute Wall



“ *Thecla Marie Ritchie*

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *My deepest sympathies to you and your family. I haven't seen your mom in many years but I so enjoyed her spunkiness and her stories when she would come into the bank in the 80's. May happy memories fill your heart at this time.*

**Cindy (Stoltman) Haagenson** - March 11, 2022 at 10:04 AM



“ *Patti and Ralph: So enjoyed living across the street from you when you all owned the grocery store. Your mom and dad were both wonderful people. Brings back so many wonderful memories. So sorry for your loss. Love and Prayers*

*Connie (Ringwelski) Butler*

**Constance Butler** - March 09, 2022 at 11:41 PM



“ *Patti, Bruce & family:  
You have our deepest sympathy!  
Peace,  
Norm & Rosemary*

**Hollingsworth** - March 08, 2022 at 10:27 PM

DW

“ Dwight & Celeste Wiersgalla lit a candle in memory of Thecla Marie Ritchie



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**Dwight & Celeste Wiersgalla** - March 08, 2022 at 05:47 PM

CS

“ Thecla was such a warm, wonderful person. She would come to the library when she would bake and always bring something wonderful for the staff. My favorite was her banana bread. Sorry for her loss; she always brightened my day.



*Cheryl Seelen*

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**Cheryl Seelen** - March 07, 2022 at 06:19 PM

MS

“ Mark & Pam Savage lit a candle in memory of Thecla Marie Ritchie



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**Mark & Pam Savage** - March 05, 2022 at 04:55 PM

JB

“ Patti and family, sending prayers 🙏

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**julie brill** - March 05, 2022 at 02:42 PM

DJ

“ *My sincere sympathy to the Richie and Hammerbeck families. May she rest in peace and May God Bless You all during this sad time.*



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**Debbie Jelinski-Harakel** - March 05, 2022 at 01:21 PM

BE

“ *So many memories of that little store...your Mom and Dad...always treated us like family..Hugs and prayers ..Becky Bellefeuille Treb*

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**Becky** - March 04, 2022 at 10:55 PM

JV

“ *So sorry for the loss of your mom. Growing up on the North End meant we got to go to Richies Grocery for a bag of penny candy. Lots of fond memories of your mom and dad.*

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**Jana Volbert** - March 04, 2022 at 03:15 PM

DC

“ *Denise & Mike Czech lit a candle in memory of Thecla Marie Ritchie*



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**Denise & Mike Czech** - March 04, 2022 at 11:07 AM

DE

*Our deepest sympathies to Ralph, Patti and families. Keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers.*

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**Denise** - March 04, 2022 at 11:08 AM

MM

“ Patti, I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your Mom. My thought & prayers are with all of you at this time. Take care.



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**Mary Lou Marsolek** - March 04, 2022 at 06:43 AM

ML

“ I remember the little grocery store on the North side of town and how wonderful your parents were to starving young women who were on their own. Your mom was so very kind to the entire neighborhood. She really was like a second mom. Although, I have not seen her in quite a while we will always hold her memory in our thoughts and prayers. Patti and Ralph when it came to picking out moms you picked the very best.  
All our sympathy,  
Mary (Lies) Lange and our entire family

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**Mary Lange** - March 03, 2022 at 08:37 PM

DP

“ Patti, Ralph and families, Thecla was such a warm and living person. We always had such enjoyable conversations when we would meet. She will be missed by many. Hold tight to the happy memories. May she Rest In Peace.



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**Deb Pederson** - March 03, 2022 at 07:20 PM

GS

“ A gem, one of a kind... feisty, oh I loved her feistiness.. courageous..a fighter through many challenges.. will always cherish my memories of her... love to all the family💕 thoughts and prayers in the coming days, Gwyn

Gwyn Shelley - March 03, 2022 at 04:28 PM

EL

“ Elaine, Donna & Susanne LeDoux lit a candle in memory of Thecla Marie Ritchie



Elaine, Donna & Susanne LeDoux - March 03, 2022 at 11:40 AM

LA

“ Oh, so many memories.... oh, so much love. Thecla was a gem, unique and special to everyone. She was a “neighborhood mom” that we all cherished. Holding you close, Ralph, Patti & family.

Lani - March 03, 2022 at 10:41 AM

RS

“ Patti, Ralph, & families: Our deepest sympathy, thoughts and prayers go out to the family. Your mother was a great friend, and person. May she rest in heaven with our Heavenly Father. God’s blessings on you all.

Richard & Mary Schneider - March 03, 2022 at 10:25 AM

JS

“ I used to see Thecla at the Little Falls library. I enjoyed our visits & she would bring us homemade treats. She was a lovely & interesting lady.

Joan Stuckmayer - March 03, 2022 at 10:06 AM

ST

“ Sara And Bill Turk lit a candle in memory of Thecla Marie Ritchie



Sara and Bill Turk - March 03, 2022 at 09:31 AM

GZ

“ Patti, Ralph and families. Our deepest sympathies on the loss of Thecla. We have missed seeing her every month when she came in! Sending our prayers of comfort to you all.



Greg and Wendy Zylka - March 03, 2022 at 08:49 AM



“ Deepest sympathy to the Ritchie and Hammerbeck families.



Renae Schneider - March 03, 2022 at 03:23 AM

SD

“ *Stan And Dee lit a candle in memory of Thecla Marie Ritchie*



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**Stan and Dee** - March 02, 2022 at 11:31 PM

SN

“ *Sandy Nelson lit a candle in memory of Thecla Marie Ritchie*



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**Sandy Nelson** - March 02, 2022 at 11:17 PM

FT

“ *Fred Tabatt lit a candle in memory of Thecla Marie Ritchie*



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**Fred Tabatt** - March 02, 2022 at 09:18 PM

CC

“ *Craig & Cindy lit a candle in memory of Thecla Marie Ritchie*



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**Craig & Cindy** - March 02, 2022 at 08:37 PM

BC

“ *Our Deepest Condolences, Thecla will be missed! The Crowder Family* ❤️



**Brian-Paul K. Crowder** - March 02, 2022 at 08:07 PM

KK

“ *Your Mom was such a wonderful person and I have missed her smiling face around town. Her memory will always stay in my heart.* 💔  
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**Ken and Kathy Garrison Kloss** - March 02, 2022 at 07:54 PM

CL

“ *Charlie And Dianne Ledbetter lit a candle in memory of Thecla Marie Ritchie*



**charlie and dianne ledbetter** - March 02, 2022 at 06:17 PM

WW

“ *My Sympathy to the Ritchie and Hammerbeck Families!*



**Wendy Waltman** - March 02, 2022 at 05:11 PM